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## **Salisbury City Manager Steps Down**

Salisbury, NC\_June 7, 2011 – Mayor Susan Kluttz said she and City Council were saddened to receive notification from City Manager David Treme that he would be stepping down as City Manager of Salisbury, effective August 1, 2011. Treme has served the City of Salisbury for over 25 years. Kluttz said, “Treme’s leadership in the City has also included non-profits such as Rowan County United Way, Rowan County Chamber of Commerce, Salisbury Rotary Club, and Salisbury Community Development Corporation.” Treme’s 36-year career as a city manager began in 1975 as the City Manager of Mauldin, South Carolina. He came to Salisbury in February 1986 from Georgetown, South Carolina where he served as City Manager for nearly nine years.

Treme said that though he has thoroughly enjoyed his 36-year career in city management, he would like to spend more time with his family and pursue some new endeavors. Treme said he is interested in doing some teaching and sharing some of the knowledge, he has learned over the years. Treme is a student of servant leadership, management, state and local government, and strategic planning.

Mayor Kluttz said, “I have worked closely with Dave Treme since becoming Mayor nearly 14 years ago and it is difficult to imagine Salisbury City government without Dave Treme. He is responsible for implementing so many of the practices that are used in our government today and have made us a model for other cities in the state and the nation. Goals and Outcomes, Annual Goal-Setting Retreats, Management Team leadership, and Customer Service initiatives are a few of the many excellent ways our government is unique.” Ironically, many of these management processes were begun when Treme came to Salisbury and worked under the late Mayor John Wear, Mayor Kluttz’s father.

Mayor Kluttz said Salisbury has been recognized as a leader in customer service statewide and nationally and was featured in the August 2010 Public Management Magazine. Kluttz credits the employee Customer Service Design Team and all City employees for an improvement in 13 of 14 service areas as identified by Salisbury citizens. Mayor Kluttz also cited the Gang Summits, Flowers Bakery, Downtown revitalization, Town Mall development and the Plaza as a few examples of how citizen involvement and public-private partnerships have been used by the City to accomplish important City initiatives. Mayor Kluttz cites the Salisbury-Rowan Utilities agreement with Progress Energy to increase Salisbury’s water plant capacity to over 25 million gallons per day as an outstanding example of a public-private partnership. Mayor Kluttz also credits Treme and the Fibrant staff for the many years of hard work in getting the City’s newest utility, Fibrant, up and running. Due to these efforts, our community is now positioned for a successful future.

Mayor Kluttz said, "I would like to assure the public that our Salisbury City Council will provide a smooth transition for the selection of a new City Manager. One of Dave's greatest strengths is that he understands the importance of having a strong team of leaders managing the departments. Having these qualified leaders in place will help ensure a smooth transition for the City, and I am confident the outstanding government we experience today will continue in the future." Kluttz said she and City Council would be meeting in the near future with Assistant City Managers Doug Paris and John Sofley in order to select an acting or interim City Manager to lead the organization while City Council decides how to fill the position. Mayor Kluttz also has called upon Human Resources Director Zack Kyle to brief the City Council on various options for how to go about the selection process. Mayor Kluttz is confident that whoever is selected to serve as the acting or interim City Manager will have the full support of not only City Council, but also the City's Management Team and employees. "We are very grateful for Dave's tremendous service to the City. What Salisbury is today is due in great part to his vision and leadership. We wish him the very best in his years ahead. We hope they will be spent here in Salisbury." Kluttz said it has been a quarter of a century since the City has had to select a new City Manager. She hopes she and other members of City Council will do as well as her father did.

During tonight's meeting, the City Council unanimously adopted a resolution appointing Dave Treme to the City's highest professional honor, City Manager Emeritus.

Mayor Pro Tem Maggie Blackwell said, "Dave, you have spent many long days and many long years with the City. I hope you are rewarded with a wonderful retirement."

Councilman William Kennedy said, "I've been here over 18 years and I have enjoyed them as a council member due to Dave's management of the City. I have learned a lot from Dave." Councilman Kennedy continued, "Dave, your heart is in the City. I wish you well on your next endeavors and look forward to seeing you around."

Although not present at the meeting, Councilman Paul Woodson shared that he has enjoyed working with Dave. "Dave has always been very professional; the City has made great progress over the last 14 years. We will miss Dave's leadership."

Councilman Brian Miller said, "When I was newly elected into this role, I had also changed employers. Dave, I was looking for validation that I had made the right decisions and came into your office. It touched me that you not only talked with me; you also spent time with me in prayer. You have been a good person for the City and you will be sorely missed. Salisbury couldn't have had a better soldier."

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